

# Circuit Rider

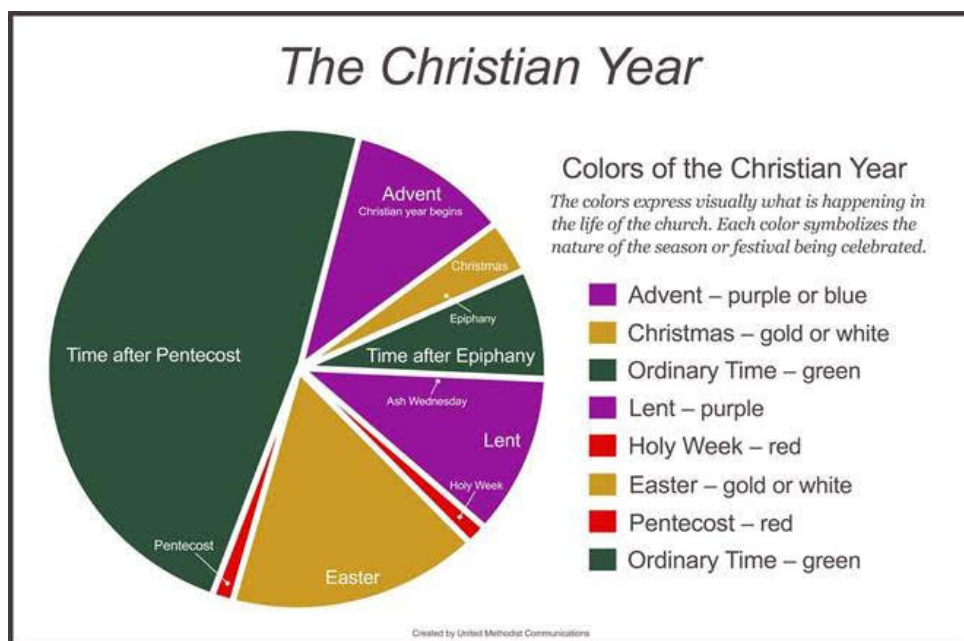


A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale • May 2022

## Easter Season is Ending... So What's Next?

Holy Week is over but the celebration continues! What are the some of the next important days on the church calendar? June 5 will be Pentecost Sunday, the 50th day after the resurrection of Jesus. Pentecost comes from a Greek word meaning 50<sup>th</sup>. The Jewish Festival of Pentecost (called Shavuot) meaning 'weeks' in Hebrew) starts on the 50<sup>th</sup> day after the Hebrew Passover. On that day, God gave the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai.

We celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples after Jesus' Ascension, held on the seventh Sunday after Easter. Read the story in Acts, chapter 2. It describes a powerful wind and tongues of fire as the Holy Spirit was poured out from all over the world who came to Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish festival. This



is why Pentecost is known as the birthday of the Christian Church. That's the day we wear red to symbolize the tongues of fire that empowered the apostles and others to spread the good news of Christ's resurrection in many languages to the crowds of pilgrims. So

lets fill the sanctuary with the fire! Wear red and feel the fire within you!

June 12 is Trinity Sunday. What is that, you ask? It's the day we celebrate the Three... what I think of as the personalities of

*(Continued on page 6)*



## First United Methodist Church

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[www.glendalefirstumc.com](http://www.glendalefirstumc.com)

Church Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Rev. A. Tom Jelinek, Pastor



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**May 1 — Third Sunday of Easter**

Read: Acts 9:1-20

Sermon: "A Walk to Damascus"

**May 8 — Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Read: Acts 9:36-43; Revelation 7:9-17

Sermon: "A Total Restoration"

**May 15 — Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Read: Acts 11:1-18

Sermon: "Surprising Love"

**May 22 — Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Read: Acts 16:9-15; John 14:18-24

Sermon: "Being at Home"

**May 29 — Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Read: Acts 1:1-11; Luke 24:44-53

Sermon: "A New Beginning"

### West District Prayer List



Each year, the West District prays for all the churches in its jurisdiction for one month. In

May, please pray for:

**First UMC, Yuma**  
(Pastor Mike Wilkerson)

**Fort Yuma UMC**  
(Pastor Bob Klein)

**Gila Mountain UMC**  
(Rev. David Harris)

### Update from the Finance Subcommittee

In March, members and friends of First Glendale generously donated \$51,330 to support the operation and programs of our church. This total includes money received for the General Fund, the Riner Assistance Office, Capital Improvements, Memorial Fund, Brick-by-Brick, Missions, Evangelism Fund, and other designated funds as well as interest and increases to our TD Ameritrade investment account. Focusing on the General Fund, we had income of \$17,643 and expenses of \$21,709. Our expenses exceeded our income by about \$4,000 for the month. The balance in our checking account accordingly declined to \$46,312.

(Continued on page 4)

## ***All in One Place***

After what seems like an endless stream of challenges, it's wonderful to note the blessings that we have recently had in our Church Family. We gathered for meaningful times of worship during Holy Week, and on Easter Sunday, we celebrated with Sunrise Service, a delicious Easter Breakfast courtesy of our United Methodist Men, an inspiring Prelude Service, a joyous Traditional Easter Celebration, Easter Egg and Bible Scavenger Hunts for children and youth, and for the first time in over two years, we celebrated Contemporary Worship at 11:15. What a morning!

Now, as the pandemic that has constrained us for the last couple of years seems to be less of a factor, we continue to explore what life will be, and how we'll move forward as a congregation, in this new era. Will we be able to resume all the activities we had before Covid? What new ministries will be in our future? And, most importantly, how will we know where God is leading us?

Well, I don't have the answers to those questions; none of us do. But I can tell you that this is an exciting time to be a part of First

United Methodist Church of Glendale. In the months ahead, we'll all have an opportunity to participate in a process of visioning for our future – looking at where we want to be and what we want to be doing as a congregation in the future.

A big part of that process will be discovering who is around us. When the disciples gathered in Jerusalem for Pentecost, they were one small group of many who really didn't know each other and didn't even speak the same language. But then, with the coming of the Holy Spirit, suddenly they could understand each other, and as the scriptures record, that vast and diverse group of 3,000 people, all in one place, became one community, laying the foundation of the Christian church,

And today, in the neighborhood surrounding First Glendale, there many communities, many groups of people around us. Some we're very familiar with; we speak the same language, both literally and culturally, and others may be unfamiliar to us. But we're all in one place, and we have the opportunity to let God's Spirit bring us together,



as we open our hearts and minds to welcome those around us, and do ministry in new ways.

Please join me in a prayer that, remembering the birth of the Church at Pentecost, we may have the opportunity to understand and welcome those around us, forging relationships that will enable us to share God's good news of grace and hope with our community.

*Pastor Tom*

### Fellowship Coffee Hour Help Needed

The Coffee Hour host for the second Sunday of the month is the Riner/WOW team. Elizabeth will be out of town the rest of the summer, and Ann Nimlos is still recuperating, so we need a group or a family to step up and take the second Sunday in May, June, July and August. Thank you!



*Historic Downtown Glendale's 15th Annual*  
**Mother's Day Celebration**

*Catlin Court & Old Towne*

**Saturday, May 7, 2022 10 a.m. - Close**

Collecting newborn diapers, new receiving blankets and newborn onesies for Safe Haven location care packages. Please bring donations to the Arizona Information Center, 5836 W. Paltaire.

### Finance

*(Continued from page 2)*

Taking a broader look at the first quarter of 2022, we had General Fund income of \$78,779 which is 113% of our budget. The pledge giving is at 100.1%, so thank you to all who made a pledge for 2022. The Restricted Funds had income of \$41,896. On the expense side, General Fund expenses totaled \$63,382 (82.6% of budget), and the Restricted Funds spending totaled \$8,937.

We are still struggling a bit to manage the finances of the church. With the death of Rosie Miller and the resignation of Rebecca Curless, we do not have a dedicated treasurer. Rebecca has been helping out by coming in Saturdays to post the payroll, pay the bills, and enter the giving into the accounts, but that is not a long term solution. We have a possible replacement, but we still need to work out the details.

This is your church, and you have the right to know how we are doing financially at any time. So, if you have any questions, no matter how big or how small, regarding the budget or finances of the church, I strongly encourage you to ask. You will get your answer.

May God continue to guide and bless our church.

—David Mosley, Finance Subcommittee Chair

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[www.VisitDowntownGlendale.com](http://www.VisitDowntownGlendale.com)  
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## 2022 Annual Conference Mission Project "The Long Journey"

In 2017 National Justice for Our Neighbors produced a video, sharing words from DACA students about what it means to be able to go to school in the United States. What it means for their futures, and in turn, I would say, for our future, as these wonderful young people participate in our nation. Funding for education is hard to come by, and we hope that you will give generously to [The Long Journey Scholarship Fund](#).

The video shares the words of many students, words that express their dreams and hopes for their future. The video can be found at the following link, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PA-TGAHOZIs>

Thank you for your giving heart!  
Billie Fidlin, Director of Justice and Outreach  
Desert Southwest Conference

You can support the 2022 Annual Conference Mission Project, "The Long Journey" by putting checks in the offering on Sunday, and marking them "2022 Mission Project." or by donating online at <https://bit.ly/2022MissionProject>

You can also mail checks directly to the Desert Southwest Conference at P.O. Box 32830, Phoenix, Arizona 85064. Again, please enter 2022 Mission Project in the memo line. Thank you for your support! Questions about the mission project may be sent to Billie Fidlin, Director of Justice & Outreach at [bfidlin@dscumc.org](mailto:bfidlin@dscumc.org).



**The Long Journey**

Scholarship Funding for  
DACA/Undocumented Students

Donate at  
<https://bit.ly/2022MissionProject>



Photo by Kathleen Barry, United Methodist Communications



**Desert Southwest Conference**  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Save the Date for VBS July 18-23, 2022

First Glendale's Vacation Bible School will be held the last week in July, and is open to children and youth ages 4 -14.

Cokesbury's **Food Truck Party VBS** invites children of all ages to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party!

Using Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread," children are invited to pray as Jesus teaches. These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God - and our daily needs are met by God.

Through stories in both the Old and New Testaments, this VBS opens kids' eyes to the countless ways God provides, loves, and cares for us while inviting them to join God in providing, loving, and caring for others. The goal of Food Truck Party is to help children build on the practice of using daily prayer to turn to God for their needs - and also to serve as the hands of God in ensuring that the needs of others are met.



## ***The Christian Year***

*(Continued from page 1)*

Our Lord and Savior, probably an oversimplification but from my earliest memory people have been said to struggle with the thought of the Trinity. Did you know there are many symbols for the Trinity, God (Father), Jesus (Son), and the Holy Spirit. There's a triangle, 3 circles symbolizing eternity, two triangles and one circle, tritetra archs from circle, and even St Patrick offered the shamrock because of its three equal parts; not whole if one is missing. There are lots and lots of paintings where pictured are a crown, a cross and a dove. How do you visualize the Trinity?

And finally starting June 19—October 25 is Ordinary Time. Did you know there are actually two periods of OT? The 1st period is called the Season of Epiphany, from January 6 to day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. The central theme of this season is the calling of disciples and the early ministry of Jesus. For some, this means a focus on evangelism and gospel reading each week. For others the focus will be preparing to help others grow in their discipleship. The second period of OT is the season after Pentecost, following the Easter cycle. It begins the day after Pentecost and continues to Advent. The purpose of this season is to support new disciples and the whole congregation in living the gifts and callings discerned during the Easter Season. I look at these times to experience Jesus in celebrating his life, death and rebirth and then how we can practice and also to help each other be more like Jesus as God would want

In the next month or so I am going to do some extra reading and can't wait to hear more about these days in church. I'm feeling so blessed that I have that option to grow in God.

—Debbie Sneddon

## ***A Message from the Brick by Brick Committee***

We finished the Grant request and it was uploaded to the Heritage Fund website in March. The application was accepted and is in good standing. But the Heritage Fund just recently advised us that they had unfortunately awarded all of the money they had for this funding cycle ending 6/30/2022. It is a huge disappointment to us. The money comes from the State Lottery and this is the first time that there has been money given to the Heritage Fund for Historic Preservation since 2008. Of course, there has been money made by the Lottery since 2008, so we could all help by contacting our AZ state Representatives, AZ State Senators, the Governor, our US Senators, US Representatives letting them know that there are many buildings worthy of historic restoration. We can let them know that Historic Preservation is important to our communities, the history of the state, state tourism, and education of our children. We can make calls, send an email, or go to a website and click on "contact us". The message can be short and let them know you are a voter. Thank you so very much!

Our Brick-by-Brick Committee will be contacting the Heritage Fund so that we can follow the status of our grant request. We will continue and move ahead working on the planning phase determining the priority projects and start with the design of the first priority project on our list.

Thank you again to everyone who has helped and contributed to the Brick-by-Brick Fund.

God bless and guide us!

—Ann Nimlos

## ***News from the Brad Riner Assistance Office!***

The Riner office has been very busy lately. We have been handing out 30-40 lunches each Monday and Tuesday. We want to give a **Big Thank You to Dove of the Desert UMC**, who helps to support our office. On Super Bowl Sunday they did a collection for us, and recently mailed a check for over \$1,400. Dove is also currently holding a summer clothing drive for us, to include t-shirts, shorts, and shoes.

I will be leaving for several weeks to be with my children in Michigan, but the office will be in great hands as Kay Andrews steps in to keep things running smoothly while I am away.

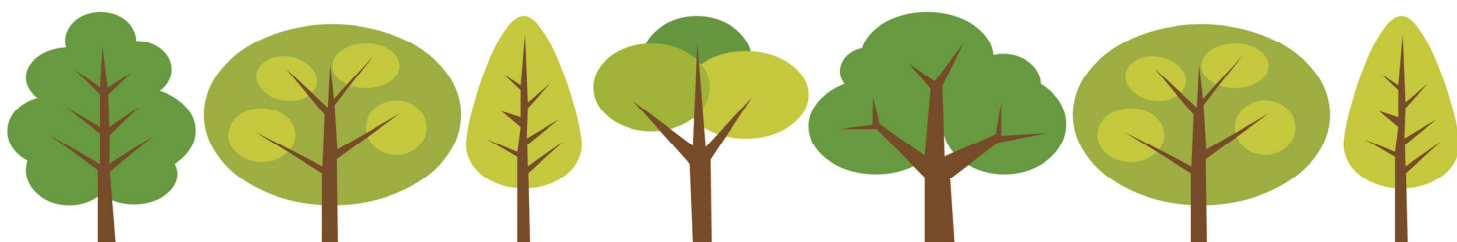
I have been cooking for Wednesday Open Worship on alternate weeks. If anyone would be interested in taking this on it would be greatly appreciated. It is a big job for Lisa Sanchez to do every week. This volunteer position requires a food handlers card and the ability to plan and execute a meal for 75 people every other Wednesday. We serve at 12:15. We have about 5 helpers each week so you do not need to do everything yourself, and we can reimburse you for all food purchases.



As you enjoy your summer vacations, keep the Riner Office in mind. If you stay at hotels this summer please bring back any extra shampoos, soaps, lotions, etc. We have a great need for hygiene products.

As always, thank you for your continued support,

—Elizabeth Leggett



## **Summer Camps 2022: REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

Mingus Mountain Camp, near Prescott, AZ is introducing a new session for rising 7th – graduated seniors called **Youth Arts Camp** and bringing back modified favorites with the introduction of **Adventures in Leadership** and **Adventures in Missions**. The new favorite, Night Owls will be held in July this year. For more information or to register:

**<https://mingusmountaincamp.org/summer-camp/>**

We want everyone who wants to go to camp to be able to do so. If you need a camping scholarship, contact the church office.

Our next newsletter will be the Summer 2022 edition.

Please submit all news and articles by Friday, June 10 at 3:00 pm.

Any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you!



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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7102 North 58th Drive  
Glendale, AZ 85301-2434

First Class  
Postage Here

Deadline for the next issue is June 10. Your items for the newsletter should be submitted to the church office by 3:00 pm.  
 email: rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com  
 fax: 623-236.9284